

Nineveh purport to show real progress in the Christian majority towns, on the ground we see little evidence of it. Work projects are in most cases cosmetic in nature, and much of that cynically so . . . In effect, U.S. taxpayers are financing the spoils of genocide.”

As an alternative option for U.S. assistance, he details the Nineveh Sustainable Return Program, an initiative of the ecumenical Nineveh Reconstruction Committee to repair homes damaged or destroyed by ISIS. The Program has already rebuilt several thousand homes and enabled thousands of Christian families to return, mostly funded by the Knights of Columbus and Aid to the Church in Need, with some additional funding from the Government of Hungary. Last month, the Nineveh Reconstruction Committee USA submitted a proposal to USAID to ensure the project can be completed and many more families can return.

I strongly support this time-sensitive proposal and call on USAID Administrator Mark Green to ensure a decision is made about it soon. Because of the resistance among career staff at USAID to directing assistance to religious and ethnic minority communities, even though they were targeted for genocide, it is imperative officials appointed by the President are part of the review process and that the final decision be made by Presidential appointees. I included this proposal as part of the hearing record.

As Mr. Rasche warns in his written testimony, “Today, as I speak to you, we are caught fully exposed and at-risk, finding ourselves at a critical historical inflection point, foreign aid decisions over which will determine whether Christianity, and religious pluralism—vital to the U.S. national interest and regional security—will survive in Iraq at all.”

IN RECOGNITION OF MS. JUDITH  
TUCKER

**HON. SANFORD D. BISHOP, JR.**

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, October 3, 2017*

Mr. BISHOP of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, it is my honor and pleasure to extend my personal congratulations and best wishes to an exceptional community leader, an outstanding citizen, and a dear friend of longstanding, Ms. Judith Tucker, on the occasion of her retirement.

A native of West Point, Georgia, Judith attended Spelman College before transferring to Columbus College, where she received her bachelor's degree in General Business.

Judith previously served as a marketing officer for Columbus Bank and Trust Company and the Vice President of Product Development at Synovus Financial Corporation. After working for Synovus Financial Corporation, Judith joined the board of Midtown Incorporated where Mayor Teresa Tomlinson served as the Executive Director. After developing a solid business relationship, Tomlinson hired Judith as MidTown's Director of Community Affairs, and together they increased the organization's membership from 24 to 100 members. When Tomlinson ran and won in the 2010 mayoral election for the City of Columbus, she appointed Judith to be her Executive Assistant, and for more than 7 years, Judith has done a

tremendous job in upholding the highest standards of professionalism, honesty, and affordability.

Ms. Tucker's distinguished civil service has been mirrored by her extensive involvement in her community. In conjunction with her professional accomplishments in government, Ms. Tucker served on a several boards, including the boards of NeighborWorks for Columbus and the Columbus Symphony Orchestra. She also belonged to a number of prestigious organizations, such as Girl Scouts of Historical Georgia, the Gracious Ladies of Georgia, and the Kiwanis Club of Columbus.

Judith Tucker's faith has always instilled within her a desire to positively shape the community in which she lives. As the Chair Pro-Tem of the Board of Trustees at St. James A.M.E., she regularly incorporates her faith into her commitment to public service.

She has accomplished much throughout her life, but none of this would be possible without the grace of God and the inspiration, love and support of her son, Kenneth Tucker, and her grandson, Tristan Tucker.

Dr. Benjamin E. Mays often said: “You make your living by what you get; you make your life by what you give.” The greater Columbus area is a better place because of Judith Tucker and her tireless commitment to making our community stronger. As a woman of great integrity, her efforts, her dedication, and her expertise are unparalleled, but her heart for helping others utilizing these qualities has made her life's work truly special.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me, my wife Vivian, and the more than 700,000 citizens of the 2nd Congressional District, in extending our sincerest appreciation and best wishes to Ms. Judith Tucker upon the occasion of her retirement from an outstanding career of public service.

CELEBRATING THE NATIONAL DAY  
OF TAIWAN

**HON. EARL L. “BUDDY” CARTER**

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, October 3, 2017*

Mr. CARTER of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to note the upcoming National Day of Taiwan, which falls on October 10th. I extend my best wishes to the people of Taiwan as they prepare for this important day, and also offer my best wishes for the day itself.

As a Member of Congress, I am proud of the actions we have taken through the Taiwan Relations Act (TRA) and the Six Assurances in helping to make it possible for the people of Taiwan to build the strong, prosperous, and democratic society they enjoy today. Our bilateral relationship is as strong as ever, and I am confident it will continue to be in the years to come.

Trade between the United States and Taiwan exceeded \$65 billion in 2016, a sign of close economic cooperation and friendship. Recently, Foxconn, a Taiwan-based company, made an announcement that they were expanding in to the United States through new facilities. I look forward to working towards closer trade ties and a renewed commitment for economic prosperity.

I encourage my colleagues to join me in a message of continuing friendship to the people

of Taiwan, and in wishing them a Happy Double Ten Day.

HONORING THE RETIREMENT OF  
DR. STEPHEN A. RALLS

**HON. A. DREW FERGUSON IV**

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, October 3, 2017*

Mr. FERGUSON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the retirement of Dr. Stephen A. Ralls.

Dr. Ralls has served as the Executive Director of the American College of Dentists for the past 20 years, one of the longest serving leaders in the organization's 100-year history.

The American College of Dentists was founded on August 20, 1920, in response to serious problems facing the profession. The group works to elevate the standards of dentistry, encourage graduate study and grant fellowship to those who have done meritorious work. The American College of Dentists is nonprofit and apolitical, and has long been regarded as the “conscience of dentistry.”

As a dentist myself, I deeply appreciate the contributions of this organization, and, particularly Dr. Ralls, to the field of dentistry. Their work has elevated the field and calls on all dentists to excel.

I want to extend my gratitude to Dr. Ralls for his commitment to the American College of Dentists and the greater community of dentistry. I congratulate him on his retirement.

IN RECOGNITION OF THE 250TH AN-  
NIVERSARY OF THE TOWN OF  
LENOX

**HON. RICHARD E. NEAL**

OF MASSACHUSETTS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, October 3, 2017*

Mr. NEAL. Mr. Speaker, I would like to take this opportunity to congratulate the Town of Lenox, Massachusetts on the occasion of its 250th anniversary. Over the course of its storied history, Lenox has been home to people and events which have greatly contributed to the vibrancy of our country's traditions and culture. Located in the heart of the Berkshire Mountains, the town is a wonderful representation of Western Massachusetts and the beauty it holds.

Lenox was named after Charles Lennox, the Third Duke of Richmond, who was known and respected for being an advocate of the interests of American colonists in the British House of Lords. The town lived up to the legacy of its namesake as an active participant in the Revolutionary War. In less than a decade after its first town meeting in 1767, Lenox was represented before the Royal Governor of Massachusetts by Colonel John Paterson, who would go on to play a central role in paving the way for the birth of the United States of America.

Since then, Lenox has contributed generously to the notable history and culture of not only Massachusetts, but also that of our nation. The region's rustic beauty helped Lenox develop into a lively artists' colony, attracting creative minds the likes of which included writer Nathaniel Hawthorne, photographer James